

LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Board of Health
September 9, 2014

I. ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 5:00 PM by Heidi Stark at the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. Members Present: Alan Doster, Doug Emery, Karla Lester, Michelle Petersen, Craig Strong, Mike Tavlin, Tim Sieh (ex-officio) and Heidi Stark.

Members Absent: Roma Amundson, Jacquelyn Miller , Brittany Behrens (ex-officio) and Rick Hoppe (ex-officio).

Staff Present: Judy Halstead, Charlotte Burke, Steve Frederick, Scott Holmes, Renae Rief, Kodi Bonesteel, Andrea Haberman, Tommy George, Nancy Clark, William Carver, Kathy Cook, Raju Kakarlapudi, Gwendy Meginnis, and Elaine Severe.

Others Present: Ed Schneider, Nancy Hicks and David Ackerman.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Stark stated under Current Business - Action Items - Proposed Revisions to the Lincoln-Lancaster County Air Pollution Control Program Regulations and Standards is withdrawn. She asked if there were any other additions or corrections to the Agenda.

Motion: Moved by Mr. Emery that the Agenda be approved as amended. Second by Dr. Doster. Motion carried by acclamation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Stark asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes.

Motion: Moved by Dr. Lester that the August 12, 2014 Minutes be approved as printed. Second by Dr. Doster. Motion carried by acclamation.

III. PUBLIC SESSION

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Health Director Update

Ms. Halstead stated the Department was notified the Home Visitation Program received national accreditation. Congratulations to Ms. Haberman, Ms. Bonesteel, and Mr. George for their good work.

Staff will continue their work on the Department's Strategic Plan on October 9, 2014. John Beranek, Intersections Consulting, will facilitate the event. Ms.

Halstead invited Board members to attend and participate in the sessions

The Lincoln & Lancaster County Environmental Leadership Awards Breakfast will be held on Friday, November 14, 2014 at 7:30 AM at the Nebraska Innovation Campus Conference Center. Invitations will be mailed in the near future.

Ms. Halstead provided an update on the cigar bar legislation and the Supreme Court ruling on exempting cigar bars from the Clean Indoor Air Act. The Court ruled that the exemption was unconstitutional and enforcement of the Clean Indoor Air Act relative to cigar bars will begin shortly. In the past, the license was tied to the establishment's liquor license.

LaVista city officials made the press regarding feral cats. Information was provided to the Nebraska Humane Society about our relationship and agreement with The Cat House. The Cat House efforts help maintain and curb the feral cat population in Lincoln. Ms. Halstead noted they do a nice job and at no cost to the Department.

Steve Frederick provided an update on Enterovirus D 68. He stated the virus has similar symptoms as a cold virus and is a concern in the community. Several states have experienced a high number of cases. He stated there is no specific treatment for the virus and said hand washing is the best approach to minimize coming down with the virus.

Ms. Halstead provided an update on the number of bat cases. Animal Control has responded to over 600 calls this year. Staff are urging the public to "Don't Shoo Out the Bat" if they have been bitten or suspect they were bitten by a bat in their home. If Animal Control is able to catch the bat, it can be sent to the laboratory for rabies testing. If not, the individual who was bitten will have to undergo rabies vaccinations, which can be very costly, upwards of \$15,000.00.

Federal Regulations were recently released regarding allowing pharmacies the ability to take back prescription medication, including controlled substances. An event is scheduled for September 27th, where the public will be able to drop off leftover or unwanted medications at 11 local pharmacies.

IV. CURRENT BUSINESS (Action items)

A. Proposed Revisions to the Lincoln-Lancaster County Air Pollution Control Program Regulations and Standards

This item was withdrawn. The Department was contacted by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) regarding the proposed changes relating to the regulation of greenhouse gases. EPA Region 7 advised NDEQ to not proceed with modifying regulations relative to the regulation of greenhouse gases until EPA has undergone a rule-making in light of the recent US Supreme Court ruling on the subject of regulating greenhouse gases. Health Department staff will consult with the Air Pollution Control Advisory Board on how to proceed with modifying our regulations given the new information.

V. CURRENT BUSINESS (Information Items)A. Graffiti Program Presentation

Mr. Carver provided an update on the Department's Graffiti Program. The program is in its 5th year. The Mayor's Stronger Safer Neighborhoods handled the original complaints. The program received funding from the Mayor's Office in 2009. Mr. Carver reviewed the history of the program, the program focus and education efforts. Graffiti complaints continue to decline. In 2009, 1066 complaints were received. In 2013, 514 complaints were investigated. Board members asked about the average days to close a case. Mr. Carver responded most instances of graffiti are removed in less than seven days.

B. Healthy Families America Accreditation Update

Ms. Bonesteel and Mr. George presented information on the Healthy Families America Program. Prevent Child Abuse America announced this week that the Health Department/CEDARS Youth Services program achieved accreditation in the Healthy Families America model of home visitation. The program works to reduce child abuse, family violence, juvenile delinquency and crime. She reviewed the mission, statistics, demographic data and major areas of strengths. Staff receive extensive training to work with new parents to care for their baby and cope with stress. They offer services before the baby is born, use a standardized assessment tool to identify families who are most in need of services and use positive outreach efforts to build family trust. Staff are screening 100% of their targeted populations. Mr. George reviewed the dashboard data including standards and program level data. The program level data is very useful to the home visitors and is a great management tool.

C. Updated Online Food Inspection Viewer

Mr. Holmes provided a presentation on the Department's updated Online Food Inspection Viewer. The information is available on the Health Department's website and was recently enhanced. The Viewer now provides more information to the public. The website provides information regarding establishment inspections, definitions and violations cited with short violation descriptions.

D.. Board Discussion: Smoking in Vehicles with Children

Ms. Halstead provided information on smoking in cars with children present. She stated seven states currently have legislation banning smoking in vehicles with children present in the vehicle. Some are primary offenses and some are secondary offenses. If implemented in Nebraska, law enforcement agencies would enforce the legislation. Staff believe legislation banning smoking in vehicles with children

should only be implemented at a statewide level; enforcement at a local jurisdictional level would be very difficult to enforce.

Public Comments:

Ed Schneider, OD, former Board of Health member - expressed his support for legislation regarding secondhand smoke in vehicles with children present. He agreed any legislation should first be implemented at the statewide level. Staff could provide education to the public on the effects of secondhand smoke.

David Ackerman - expressed his support for legislation regarding secondhand smoke in vehicles with children. He stated there is a misconception about secondhand smoke in a vehicle would not be hazardous with a window rolled down.

Dr. Stark asked for comments from the Board members. Dr. Lester asked what are the next steps. Ms. Halstead responded we need to look at the statewide level. Dr. Peterson asked staff to review the data and background information from the seven states who have already implemented the legislation. Ms. Halstead stated law enforcement personnel reported to her it would be easier to enforce a primary offense vs. a secondary offense; however, issues of tinted windows, proving age of child, smoking on private property (parking lots) all need to be considered. Board members agreed initial steps should include educating the public and parents about secondhand smoke in vehicles with children present. Education would have a positive impact and then if legislation is implemented on a statewide level, support could be considered.

VI. FUTURE BUSINESS

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Strategic Planning Session - Thursday, October 9, 2014 - 1:00 PM - Training Center
- Health Department

Next Meeting - October 14, 2014 - 5:00 PM

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 PM.

Elaine Severe
Recording Secretary

Jacquelyn Miller
Vice-President

